

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS

FOR SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN COUNTIES

August 2005



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development
Office of Economic Advisors

Last monthly publication of *Workforce Observations*

Beginning in October 2005 the *Workforce Observations* for January, April, July and October will review a full quarter of labor market performance and related topics. In between quarterly publications, readers can obtain data by contacting the author or seeing the Office of Economic Advisors web site <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/oea>.

Last autumn and winter **Columbia County's** unemployment rate didn't rise as high as it typically does, so the rate had been below its normal levels. Later, the slower-than-usual declines in the spring and summer months left the rate fairly close to its normal July level.

The unemployment rate in **Dane County** is low relative to other Wisconsin counties rates, but remains above its typical level

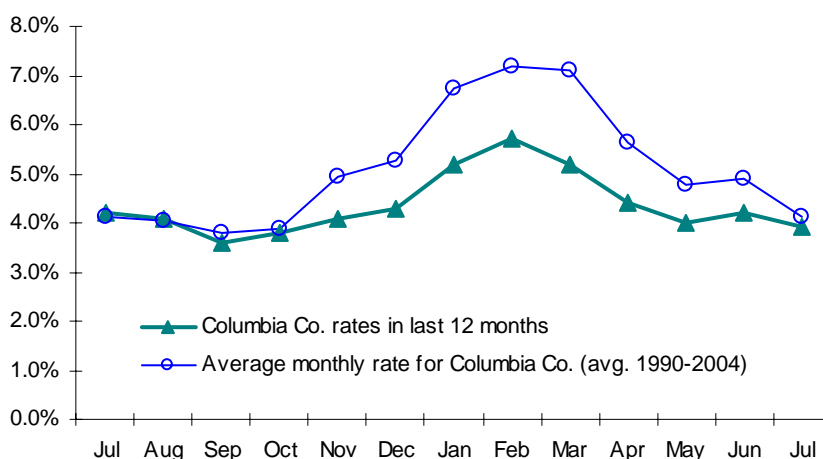
remains below year-ago levels despite summer gains. July saw the professional & business services employment estimate rise to a level

that is both higher than it has been in the last 24 months and further above the year-ago estimate than it has been in the last 12 months.

Dodge County's unemployment rate remains above its typical level by a margin largely consistent with rates from most of the last 12 months, including

July. The manufacturing employment estimate has been below its year-ago levels for seven of the last 12 months. The construction employment estimate has risen as it

Unemployment rates – not seasonally adjusted



for this time of year. In the **Madison Metropolitan Statistical Area** (which includes Columbia, Dane and Iowa counties) the construction employment estimate

Labor force estimates - not seasonally adjusted

	Wisconsin			South Central			Columbia County			Dane County		
	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Civilian Labor Force**	3,081,700	-11,200	-33,900	455,900	-60	-4,400	31,600	70	-300	288,600	480	-1,860
Employed	2,941,000	-3,700	-24,100	439,800	1,450	-3,500	30,400	160	-180	279,500	1,450	-1,700
Unemployed	140,800	-7,500	-9,800	16,100	-1,510	-900	1,230	-80	-120	9,100	-970	-170
Unemployment rate	4.6%	-0.2%	-0.2%	3.5%	-0.3%	-0.2%	3.9%	-0.3%	-0.3%	3.1%	-0.4%	-0.1%

	Dodge County			Jefferson County			Marquette County			Sauk County		
	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Civilian Labor Force**	47,600	-80	-850	43,500	-290	-1,170	8,000	-60	-110	36,700	-190	-90
Employed	45,300	80	-650	41,700	-150	-850	7,500	-20	-70	35,400	-70	-40
Unemployed	2,300	-160	-210	1,770	-140	-320	410	-40	-40	1,330	-120	-50
Unemployment rate	4.8%	-0.3%	-0.3%	4.1%	-0.3%	-0.6%	5.1%	-0.5%	-0.5%	3.6%	-0.3%	-0.1%

** Includes labor force participants residing in area. Estimates are **NOT** seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. Numbers 2,000 and greater are rounded to nearest 100. Numbers under 2,000 are rounded to nearest 10. Sub-units may not add to totals due to rounding. Calculations are based on unrounded numbers. Results are rounded. For more information call (608) 242-4885 or email dan.barroilhet@dwd.state.wi.us.

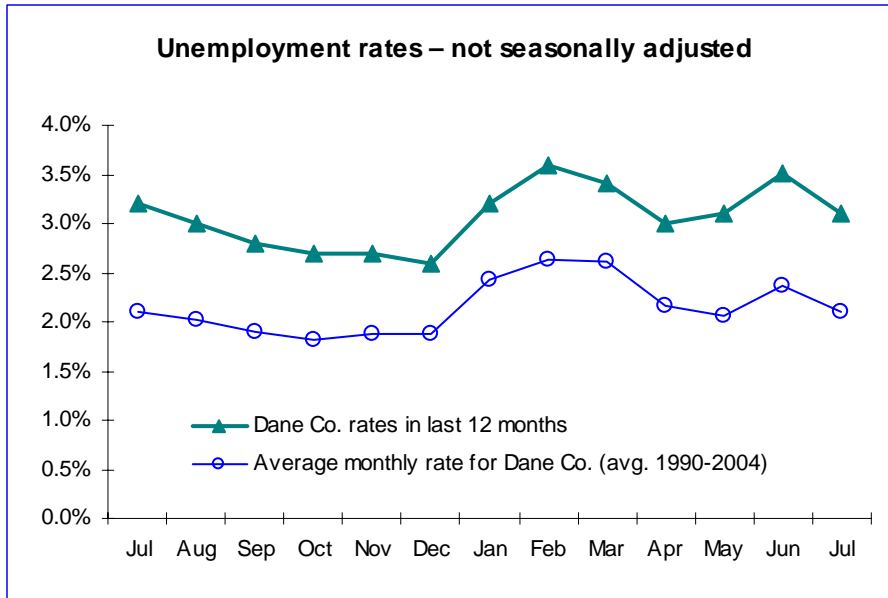
typically does in summer, but is lower this summer than it was last summer.

Jefferson County's unemployment rate is closer to its typical level than it has been for much of the past year. Last July, the construction employment estimate was roughly 240 jobs or 14 percent above its year-ago level; this July, the estimate is about 100 jobs or 5.3 percent above its year-ago level. The information, professional, business & other services employment estimate has gone from being approximately 600 jobs or 11 percent above its year-ago level in July 2004 to being barely 120 jobs or 2.1 percent above its year-ago level in July 2005.

In **Marquette County**, the unemployment rate has not been falling as quickly as it usually does in the spring

and summer months, so it is higher than usual for the first time since last September. The construction employment estimate and the leisure & hospitality employment estimate both appear to be following last year's seasonal patterns, the former above year-ago levels, the latter below year-ago levels.

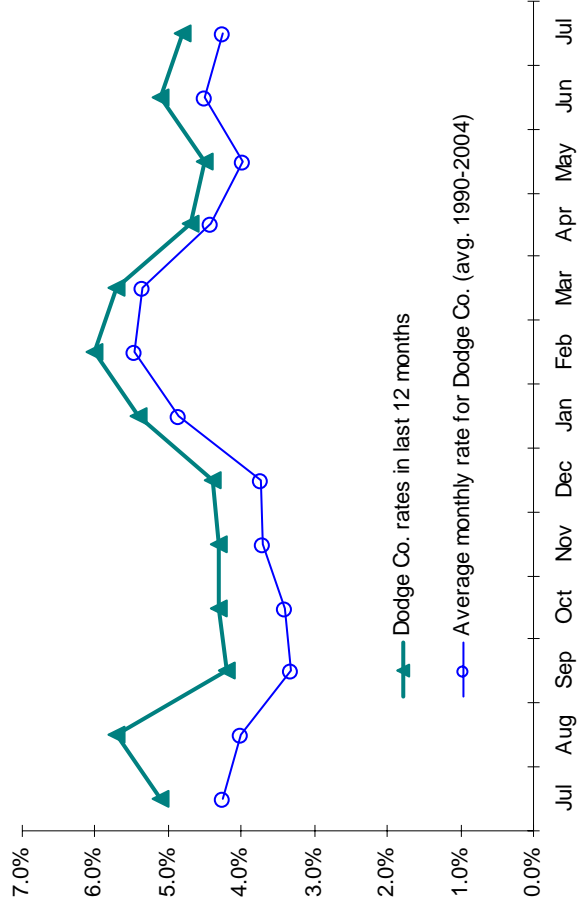
From December through April, **Sauk County's** unemployment rate was at or below typical levels; from May through July it was above its typical levels. The construction employment estimate is at its highest level of the last 24 months and is further above its year-ago level than it has been at any point in the last 12 months. The leisure & hospitality employment estimate is also at its highest level of the last 24 months and is further above its year-ago level than it has been in any of the last 12 months except June.



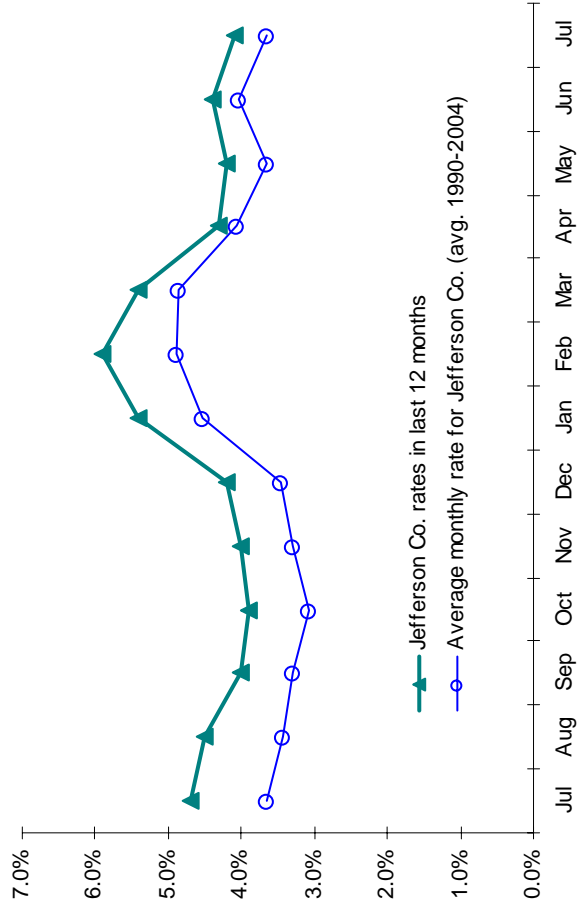
Employment by industry estimates - not seasonally adjusted									
	Wisconsin			Madison MSA			Dodge County		
	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all industries*	2,844,100	- 25,200	19,900	339,700	- 1,200	2,800	35,000	- 170	100
Const., min'g & nat. resources	149,700	2,300	6,600	17,900	400	- 700	2,500	50	0
Manufacturing	511,900	4,000	3,200	32,500	- 200	- 100	10,600	200	- 160
Trade (w/wholesale & retail)	435,400	1,200	1,400	50,600	500	- 500	4,700	30	250
Transport, Whrsing, Utilities	106,500	- 2,300	600	8,500	- 100	- 100	860	- 50	- 20
Financial activities	159,700	200	1,000	28,400	300	800	850	10	0
Education & health services	376,400	- 3,200	2,700	35,300	100	1,300	4,300	- 30	70
Leisure & hospitality	274,400	2,700	1,900	29,500	- 300	- 1,200	2,600	40	- 30
Info, prof, bus. & other srvc	446,400	200	3,200	61,300	400	3,700	3,400	- 30	90
Government	383,700	- 30,300	- 700	75,700	- 2,300	- 400	5,100	- 380	- 100
	Jefferson County			Marquette County			Sauk County		
	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all industries*	37,100	- 550	- 470	4,000	- 80	50	39,600	- 570	740
Const., min'g & nat. resources	1,800	50	100	230	0	- 20	2,500	40	120
Manufacturing	9,700	20	- 430	1,230	- 10	10	6,700	- 30	10
Trade (w/wholesale & retail)	6,400	30	100	480	0	- 10	6,300	40	50
Transport, Whrsing, Utilities	1,180	- 30	20	70	0	0	700	- 40	- 40
Financial activities	1,020	0	40	140	0	10	1,970	10	270
Education & health services	4,500	10	10	340	0	10	3,500	- 10	60
Leisure & hospitality	3,400	20	- 20	540	10	20	10,400	690	520
Info, prof, bus. & other srvc	5,600	- 60	120	360	10	20	3,100	20	- 60
Government	3,500	- 600	- 400	600	- 90	10	4,400	- 1,280	- 190

*Includes jobs with employers in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. Numbers 2,000 and greater are rounded to nearest 100. Numbers under 2,000 are rounded to nearest 10. Sub-units may not add to totals due to rounding. Calculations are based on unrounded numbers. Results are rounded. For more information call (608) 242-4885 or email dan.barroilhet@dwd.state.wi.us.

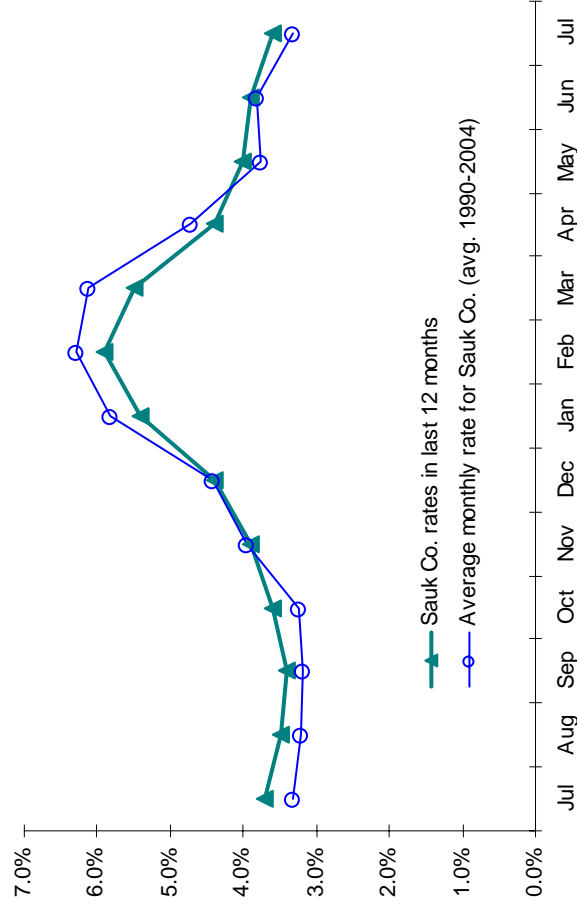
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